

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: : Docket No. 6611-01
VINCENT T. KOZYRSKI et al. : Group Art Unit: 3742
Serial No.: 09/822,136 : Examiner: D. Watts
Filed On: 30 March 2001 :
TITLE: ROTARY CUTTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DECLARATION OF VINCENT T. KOZYRSKI
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.132

I, Vincent T. Kozyrski, of 3 Weatherstone Ridge Road, Plainville, CT 06062, do hereby declare the following statements to be true to the best of my knowledge:

1. I am an employee of The Fletcher-Terry Company of Farmington, Connecticut and have been for twenty-nine ³⁰(29) years.
2. In April 2002, I conducted performance tests to evaluate differences in the performance of cutting blades similar to or the same as the type described and claimed in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/822,136 for use in a hand-held rotary cutter. Thirty-one Fletcher-Terry employees were each given four different rotary cutters (generically labeled cutters 2, 3, 4, and 5) and a sheet of clear acrylic material (12 in. width x 12 in. length x 0.0035 in. thickness). Each employee was asked to evaluate and relatively rank each of the cutters after making a plurality of cuts with each rotary cutter across the sheet. The edge angle of each cutter blade differed from that of the others:

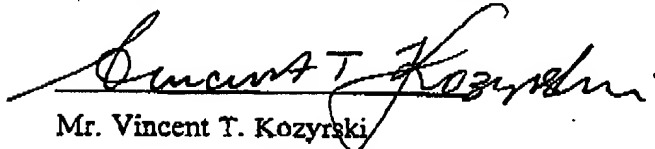
Cutter No. 2 had an edge angle of 46.5°;
Cutter No. 3 had an edge angle of 50.5°;
Cutter No. 4 had an edge angle of 53.0°; and
Cutter No. 5 had an edge angle of 61.0°.

None of the employees were informed of the differences between the rotary cutters.

3. Prior to initiating the testing, the cutting edge of each of the rotary cutting blades was inspected under microscope. The condition of each of the cutting blades was determined to be similar. Each of the cutting blades was very sharp, having only slight burring and no "chipping" on the outer diameter of the edge.

4. The results show that 90.3% (28 of 31) of the participants rated the rotary cutter with the 61.0° edge angle to be the worst-performing blade. None of the participants rated the rotary cutter with the 61.0° edge angle to be the best-performing blade. Overall, the participants rated the quality of the rotary cutters in the following order: Cutter No. 2 (edge angle of 46.5°) best performing, Cutter No. 3 (50.5°), Cutter No. 4 (53.0°), and Cutter No. 5 (61.0°) worst performing.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Mr. Vincent T. Kozyrski

SEPT. 24, 2003.
(Date)

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